



PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicant:** Aiden Flanagan**Serial No.:** 10/059,634**Filed:** January 28, 2002**For:** APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR CLOSED-LOOP  
CONTROL OF LASER  
WELDER FOR WELDING  
POLYMERIC CATHETER  
COMPONENTS**Examiner:** Koch, G.**Group Art Unit:** 1734**Docket No.** BSC0003/USCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450I CERTIFY THAT ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2004, THIS PAPER IS  
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST  
CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.  
Barbara A. Avery**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Dear Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed January 6, 2004 requiring restriction of certain claims within the subject application. Specifically, the Examiner has divided the currently pending claims into Group I, claims 1-23 and 43-61, drawn to a method of forming a fusion bond, and Group II, claims 24-42, drawn to an apparatus for forming a fusion bond.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group I, claims 1-23 and 43-61, drawn to a method of forming a fusion bond. This election is made without traverse.

It is submitted that the above election is fully responsive to the Office Action mailed January 6, 2004, and timely filed within the shortened statutory period.

No fee is deemed necessary, should any fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and notify us of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:

  
Mark W. Binder, Reg. No. 32,642

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Dated: February 6, 2004